

Massachusetts

Voting is the cornerstone right of our democracy. You can only have your voice and your needs reflected in government if you vote. Pre-registration is an important tool that allows people younger than 18 to vote as soon as they are eligible.

- ✓ Massachusetts has pre-registration to vote starting at age 16.¹
- ✓ To pre-register, just fill out the standard Massachusetts voter registration application [online](#) and follow the instructions for pre-registration.²
- ✓ You can also get a paper registration form at your high school or campus, or by calling 800-345-VOTE and requesting that one be mailed to you, or at government offices.
- ✓ When you fill out the application to pre-register, you will get a confirmation notice in the mail. Your pre-registration will be converted automatically into an active registration when you turn 18.
- ✓ For full details, see the website for registering to vote on the [Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts'](#) page. You can also [check your registration status](#) online.

Massachusetts law does not allow those younger than 18 to vote in primary elections, even if they will be 18 by the time of the general election. You can only vote after turning 18.³

Massachusetts law allows students age 16 and up to serve as poll-workers. Two 16 or 17-year-old students may serve in a given precinct if they are Massachusetts residents and U.S. citizens, speak, read, and write English, have permission from their parents and principal, and undergo training.⁴

For more information, see ACS's resources on [pre-registration](#) and [youth poll workers](#) in all 50 states.

ACS encourages everyone to learn more about voter registration in their state. ACS is not a voter registration entity. This is simply an informational tool and is not intended, nor should it serve, as legal advice.

¹ M.G.L.A. 51 § 42; M.G.L.A. 51 § 47A

² The paper registration form is available in English, Spanish, and Chinese here. You do not need identification from the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles an ID, the system will prompt you to print, sign, and mail the form.

³ M.G.L.A. 51 § 1.

⁴ M.G.L.A. 54 § 11B